24th November 1948]

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I have received notice of motion for adjournment of the business of the House from Mr. Farookhi. Here is the motion :

'*I beg to make a motion for the adjournment of the business of the Council for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the rise in fares of the state-owned buses in the City.*'

So far as the Chair is concerned, the motion is in order. Has the hon. Member the leave of the House?"

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI :—" I have no objection."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I have no objection."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I fix 4 p.m. to-day for the discussion of the motion."

GOVERNMENT MOTION.

III.—MOTION UNDER RULE 17 OF THE MADRAS COUNCIL RULES.

THE HON DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Mr. President, I move—

'*That rule 17 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Wednesday, the 24th November 1948.*' "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The question is that rule 17 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Wednesday, the 24th November 1948."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" We are in the midst of a Bill and I do not propose to oppose this motion. But I think that the Leader of the House will indicate to us what other day he will allot to us for the transaction of non-official business as to-day has been taken up for the transaction of official business."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is not possible to say with any definiteness. I shall try my best to allot it as soon as Government business is over."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" We have notice of 69 amendments of which we have finished 28 and only forty remain to be disposed of. Within two days we shall be finishing the Bill ; why not we have a non-official day after this Bill is over. To-morrow evening, we may finish this Bill and we can have the non-official business on the 26th."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, there is the Madras Agriculturists' Relief (Amendment) Bill. It is very urgent and necessary that it should be passed soon. It should not be further delayed. Moreover, the question of giving retrospective effect is also there. Therefore, it should be finished soon." 11-45 a.m.

MR. PRESIDENT :—" What time will it take?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, it will not take more than one day. It took only one day in the other House."

[24th November 1948

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, the Madras Public Libraries Bill is also there. It will not take more time. It can be finished within two hours."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The whole point is that the Government are anxious to get through their official business. But non-official day comes once in a blue moon. It is a long time since we had a non-official day. Further the Hindu Bigamous Marriages Bill also should be passed. Yesterday, Sri Kaleswara Rao and Mrs. Ammanna Raja came to me and requested that that Bill should be introduced to-day. I think, Government are also anxious that that Bill should be passed. So, may I request the Government whether they have any objection to allot a day for non-official business to discuss the Bill."

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Sir, the hon. Leader of the Opposition was telling that we would be able to finish the Zamindari Bill to-day. In which case, other Government business will not take more than one day and a half. Sri Kaleswara Rao's Hindu Bigamous Marriages Bill will certainly come. We want to finish the whole business before the 26th."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" In that case, let the Government give an indication as to how long they are prepared to sit."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Opposition wanted to discuss the food situation in the Province and the control of cloth."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" I will look into them later on. But what I want to know is how long would the Government be prepared to sit."

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, it all depends upon the passage of the present Bill now before us."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Have you got any other business?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, we must rise on the 27th."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" Why?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, some of us will have to go to Delhi in connexion with the Constituent Assembly meeting."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, I suggest that after the passage of the Zamindari Bill, we shall have a non-official day."

MR. PRESIDENT :—" To-day is 24th. As it is, we may finish the Bill to-morrow. The other Bills can be finished on the 26th. On 27th, we shall have the non-official day."

* MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the House that, on the 27th of this month, the Maharani of Bhavanagar is opening the All-India Women's Conference.

24th November 1948] [Mrs. Mona Hensman]

On that occasion, we propose to congratulate the Government on their having passed the Hindu Bigamous Marriages Bill. At present we can only congratulate the Legislative Assembly on this measure, so we want to do it this year at the Conference and not wait till the next year. It would make a very great difference to us if we could have the non-official day on Friday, the 26th and have the Bill passed; also many women who are interested in the Bill would like to be here if Friday is a non-official day. I would be grateful if you could be kind enough to fix the non-official day on the 26th."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" You want the non-official business on Friday, the 26th."

Mrs. MONA HENSMAN :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" Here is a request from the fair sex. I do not think you will deny it."

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Sir, the ladies seem to be very active in this matter. This morning a big gathering of ladies was present in my house and they requested me to fix a non-official day for the Bill. I had no other choice but to accede to their request. If the hon. Member particularly wants it on the 26th, I think we can have it on the 26th."

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" Yes, we shall have non-official business on the 26th. The question is—

'*That rule 17 of the Madras Legislative Council Rules be suspended and the House do resolve to transact Government business on Wednesday, the 24th November* 1948'."

The motion was carried.

GOVERNMENT BILL.

IV.—THE MADRAS ESTATES (ABOLITION AND CONVERSION INTO RYOTWARI) BILL, 1947 (L.A. BILL No. 37 OF 1947)—*cont.*

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" Mr. Suryanarayana Rao may now move his amendment to clause 10."

Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Sir, I do not propose to move it.

Mr. PRESIDENT :—" The question is that Clause 10 do stand part of the Bill."

The motion was carried.

Clause 11.

*Dr. V. K. JOHN :—" Sir, we are all anxious to finish this Bill soon. So we shall co-operate in cutting short our speeches.

" Sir, this is a very important amendment which I seek to move. Clauses 11, 12, 13 and 14 deal with the grant of pattas and I am seeking to omit those clauses and substitute another clause. Clauses 11, 12, 13 and 14 provide for the grant of pattas